

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

- ~~1.~~ (Currently Amended) An aromatic compound expressed by the following general formula (I):



wherein A represents a fused polyaromatic hydrocarbon moiety, X represents a hydrogen-bonding site selected from among atomic groups containing an amide linkage, an urea linkage, a thiourea linkage or an urethane linkage, Y represents a chain functional group having 3 to 18 carbon atoms, and n represents an integer ranging from 2 to 10.

- ~~2.~~ (Currently Amended) The An aromatic compound according to claim 1, expressed by the following general formula (I):

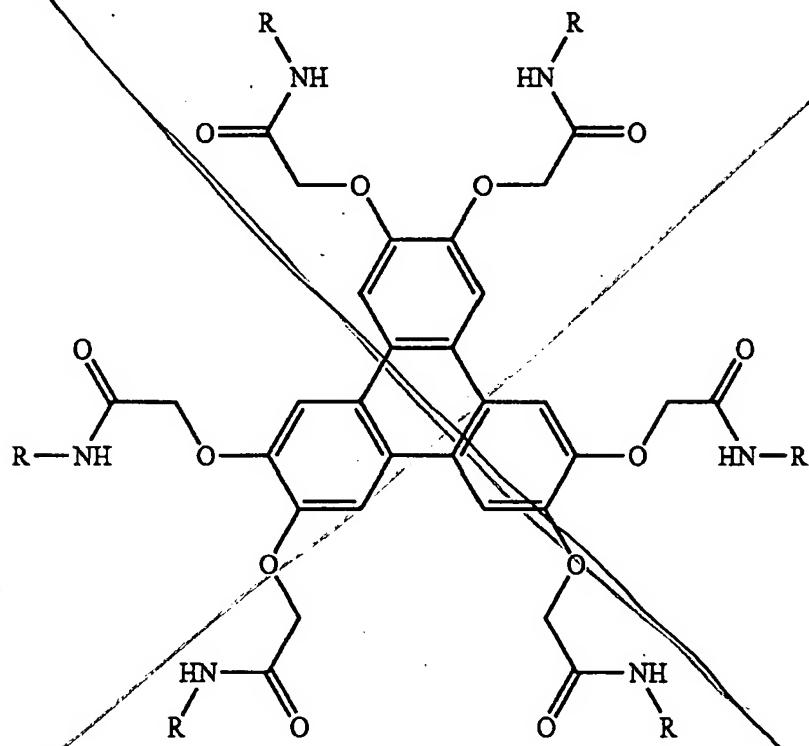


wherein A represents a said fused polyaromatic hydrocarbon moiety is selected from among triphenylene, acenes, phenanthrene, perylene, fluorene, pyrene, coronene and hexabenzocoronene, said X represents a hydrogen-bonding site is selected from among atomic groups containing an amide linkage, an urea linkage, a thiourea linkage or an urethane linkage, Y represents a and said chain functional group having 3 to 18 carbon atoms, and is selected from among an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group and a polyethylene glycol group, and n represents an integer ranging from 2 to 10.

- ~~3. (Original) The aromatic compound according to claim 1, wherein said chain functional group has 10 to 18 carbon atoms.~~

4. (Original) The aromatic compound according to claim 1, wherein said fused aromatic hydrocarbon is triphenylene.

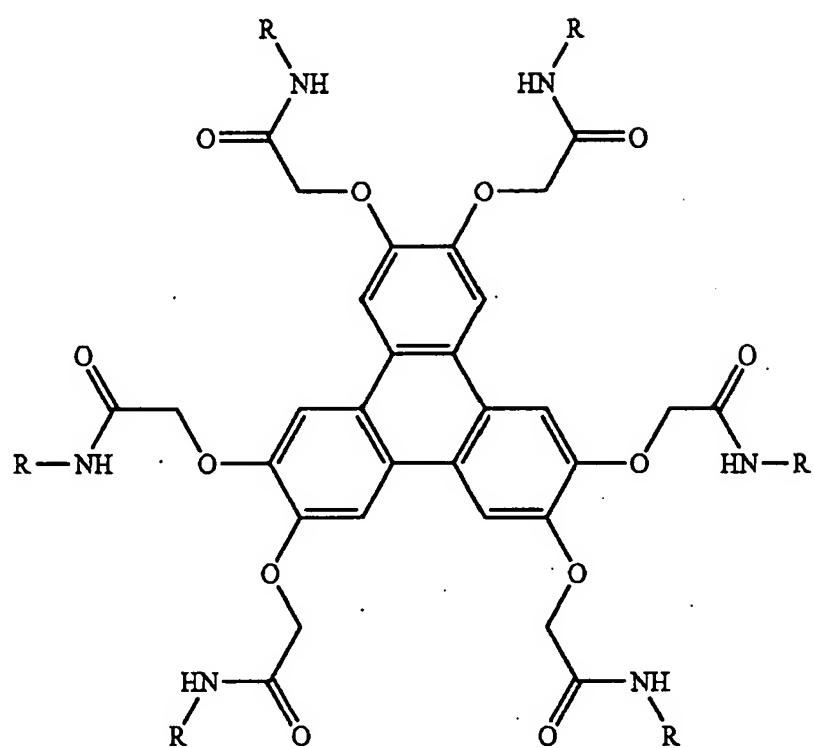
5. (Currently Amended) The aromatic compound according to claim [[4]] 2, wherein said fused aromatic hydrocarbon is triphenylene and said formula (I) is expressed by the following formula (II):



wherein R represents an alkyl group having 3 to 18 carbon atoms.

6. (Original) The aromatic compound according to claim 5, wherein said R is an alkyl group having 10 to 18 carbon atoms.

7. (New) An aromatic compound expressed by the following general formula (I):



wherein R represents an alkyl group having 3 to 18 carbon atoms.